

Remarks/Arguments

The Abstract has been amended to more clearly set forth the features of the disclosure.

The Examiner is requested to reconsider his requirement to follow the guidelines for the layout of the specification. Such a layout has been performed in the Applicant's preliminary amendment filed on 18 April 2005.

This invention relates to a multiple output conversion unit with a filter means coupled between the inputs/outputs to allow a communication channel between different inputs/outputs while preventing passage of signals in an intermediate frequency band.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1 and 9 under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over the Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of US 2003/0025841 to Sawyer.

The Examiner has admitted that the AAPA does not show or suggest:

“filter means linking the inputs/outputs of the selecting part to allow control signals in a communication signal frequency band to pass between the inputs/outputs while preventing passage of signals therebetween in the intermediate frequency band”,

as specifically recited in Claim 1. Similarly, nowhere does AAPA show or suggest:

filter means linking the inputs/outputs to allow control signals in a communication frequency band to pass therebetween while preventing passage of signals in the intermediate frequency bands”,

as specifically recited in Claim 9.

The Examiner looks to Sawyer for this feature.

Sawyer does not disclose filter means linking input/output of a selecting part, and does not disclose filter means preventing an intermediate frequency bands from passing. Rather, Sawyer describes a television tuner with an input (101), a first frequency changer (105, 108, 110), and a second frequency changer (111, 114, 116-120) converting the frequency band of selected channels into a first intermediate frequency band and a second intermediate frequency band, respectively, and single channel filtering (124, 125) for passing a selected channel and for rejecting all other channels (Claim 1, ¶'s 0077 to 0087, Figure 6).

Sawyer's tracking band filter (104) discussed in ¶0078 is connected between the input (101) and the first frequency changer (105, 108, 110) together with an amplifier (103 in figure 6). Filter 104 selects the selected channels from the input signal and delivers the selected channels to the first frequency changer (105, 108, 110).

As a result, tracking band filter 104, mentioned in ¶0078 of Sawyer, links the input 101 with the first frequency changer (105, 108, 110). Filter 104 does not link input ports VHF1, VHF3, and UHF 4/5 of figure 6. Since the tuner only comprises one output, filter 104 is unable to link outputs.

While Sawyer selects channels from an input signal, filter 104 allows selected channels with input frequency bands to pass, and rejects or reduces the level of other channels with input frequency bands. Filter 104 does not reject an intermediate frequency band.

It is therefore clear that even if Sawyer were to be combined with AAPA, the patentability of Claims 1 and 9 would not be affected.

Claims 2 and 4 are dependent from Claim 1 and add further advantageous features. The Applicant submits that these subclaims are patentable as their parent Claim 1.

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The Applicant therefore submits that this application is now in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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